

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A word identification method comprising:
a character recognition processing step of
performing recognition processing of an input character
5 string that corresponds to a word to be recognized
by each character, thereby obtaining the character
recognition result;
a probability calculation step of obtaining
a probability at which characteristics obtained as
10 the character recognition result are generated by said
character recognition processing by conditioning
characters of words contained in a word dictionary
that stores in advance a candidate of the word to be
recognized;
- 15 a first computation step of performing a
predetermined computation between a probability
obtained by this probability calculation step and the
characteristics obtained as the character recognition
result by said character recognition processing step;
- 20 a second computation step of performing a prede-
termined second computation between the computation
results obtained by said first computation relevant to
the characteristics of the words contained in said word
dictionary; and
- 25 a word recognition processing step of obtaining
the recognition result of said word based on the second
computation result by this second computation step.

2. A word recognition method according to
claim 1, wherein said character recognition processing
step consists of the steps of: delimiting an input
character string that corresponds to the word to be
5 recognized by each character; extracting characteris-
tics of character spacing by this character delimiting;
and performing recognition processing of each character
obtained by said character delimiting, wherein said
probability calculation step is used to obtain a
10 probability generated based on the characteristics
obtained as the result of character recognition by
conditioning the characteristics of characters and
character spacing of the words contained in a word
dictionary that stores in advance candidates of the
15 characteristics of character spacing in words to be
recognized.

3. A word recognition method according to
claim 1, wherein information on characters and
non-characters is included in the characters of the
20 words contained in said word dictionary.

4. A word recognition method according to
claim 3, wherein a probability at which a word
containing information on said non-characters is
generated is set based on a probability at which a word
25 that does not contain non-character information is
generated.

5. A word recognition method comprising:

a delimiting step of delimiting an input character string that corresponds to a word to be recognized by each character;

5 a step of obtaining plural kinds of delimiting results considering whether character spacing is provided or not by character delimiting caused by this delimiting step;

10 a character recognition processing step of performing recognition processing for each character as all the delimiting results obtained by this step;

15 a probability calculation step of obtaining a probability at which characteristics obtained as the result of character recognition are generated by said character recognition step by computing the characters of the words contained in the word dictionary that stores in advance candidates of words to be recognized;

20 a first computation step of performing a predetermined first computation between a probability obtained by this probability computation step and a probability at which characteristics obtained as the result of character recognition are generated by said character recognition processing step;

25 a second computation step of performing a predetermined computation between computation results obtained by said first computation relevant to each of the characters of the words contained in said word dictionary; and

a word recognition processing step of obtaining the recognition result of said word based on the result of the second calculation caused by this second computation step.

5 6. A word recognition method according to claim 5, wherein said character recognition step consists of the steps of: obtaining plural kinds of delimiting results considering whether character spacing is provided or not by character delimiting 10 caused by said character delimiting step; extracting characteristics of character spacing relevant to all the delimiting results obtained by this step; and performing recognition processing of each character as all of the said obtained delimiting results, wherein 15 said probability calculation step is used to obtain a probability at which characteristics obtained as the result of character recognition are generated by conditioning characteristics of the characters and character spacing of words contained in the word 20 dictionary that stores in advance candidates of the characteristics of character spacing in words to be recognized.

25 7. A computer readable storage medium that stores a word recognition program for performing word recognition processing in a computer, wherein said word recognition program contains:

 a character recognition processing step of

performing recognition processing of an input character string that corresponds to a word to be recognized by each character;

5 a probability calculation step of obtaining a probability at which characteristics obtained as the character recognition result are generated by said character recognition processing by conditioning characters of words contained in a word dictionary that stores in advance a candidate of the word to be 10 recognized;

15 a first computation step of performing a predetermined computation between a probability obtained by this probability calculation step and the characteristics obtained as the character recognition result by said character recognition processing step;

20 a second computation step of performing a predetermined second computation between the computation results obtained by said first computation relevant to the characteristics of the words contained in said word dictionary; and

a word recognition processing step of obtaining the recognition result of said word based on the second computation result by this second computation step.

8. A storage medium that stores a word 25 recognition program according to claim 7, wherein said character recognition processing step consists of the steps of: delimiting an input character string that

corresponds to the word to be recognized by each character; extracting characteristics of character spacing by this character delimiting; and performing recognition processing of each character obtained by
5 said character delimiting, wherein said probability calculation step is used to obtain a probability generated based on the characteristics obtained as the result of character recognition by conditioning the characteristics of characters and character spacing of
10 the words contained in a word dictionary that stores in advance candidates of the characteristics of character spacing in words to be recognized.

9. A storage medium that stores a word recognition program according to claim 7, wherein said
15 character recognition processing step consists of the steps of: delimiting an input character string that corresponds to a word to be recognized by each character; extracting characteristics of character spacing by this character delimiting; and performing
20 recognition processing of each character obtained by said character delimiting.

10. A storage medium that stores a word recognition program according to claim 8, wherein said step of extracting characteristics of character spacing
25 consists of the steps of: obtaining plural kinds of delimiting results considering whether character spacing is provided or not by character delimiting

caused by said character delimiting step; and extracting characteristics of character spacing relevant to all of the delimiting results obtained by this step.

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